

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 and 23-25 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-7 are amended. No new matter is added by these amendments. Support for these amendments can be found at least in Applicant's disclosure in paragraphs [0057], [0071], [0074] and [0093]. Claims 8-14 are canceled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited in those claims. Claims 15-19 and 23-25 are provisionally withdrawn as drawn to a non-elected group of claims. Reconsideration of the application based on the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The courtesies extended to Applicant's representative by Examiner Macchiarolo at the interview held April 2, are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicant's record of the interview.

The Office Action, on page 3, rejects claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0007363 to Yagi in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,538,216 to Mori et al. (hereinafter "Mori"). Additionally, the Office Action, on page 4, rejects claims 3-6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yagi in view of Mori and further in view of JP-A-2000-028887 to Inaba. The Office Action, on page 5, rejects claims 7-14 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yagi in view of Mori, and further in view of Inaba, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,086,231 to Kenjo et al. (hereinafter "Kenjo"). The Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

As discussed during the personal interview, claims 1-7 have been amended to incorporate the features of a projector (instead of a light source unit), the projector comprising an optical component enclosure having a preset reference and the lamp housing of the light source unit being engaged the optical component enclosure in a state in which the optical axis of the oval reflector is disposed on the preset reference axis of the optical component

enclosure. The Examiner agreed during the personal interview that the applied references do not teach the subject matter of the amended claims. However, the Examiner indicated that a further search may be required, for prior art references, upon receipt of the formal filing.

The applied references do not teach the features as positively recited in the amended claims. Specifically, Yagi teaches an infrared radiating lamp which dilutes the red light emitted from the front lens. Mori teaches a lighting apparatus, and Inaba teaches a technique for fixing a lens to a lens frame. Kenjo teaches a vehicle lamp.

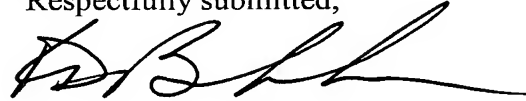
For at least the above reasons, the applied references cannot reasonably be considered to teach, or to have suggested, the combination of all of the features recited in at least independent claims 1 and 15. Further, claims 2-7, 15-19 and 23-25 would also not have been suggested by the applied references for at least the respective dependence of these claims, either directly or indirectly, on allowable independent claims 1 and 15, as well as for the separately patentable subject matter that each of these claims recites.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the applied references, as enumerated above, are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-14, 15-19 and 23-25 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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